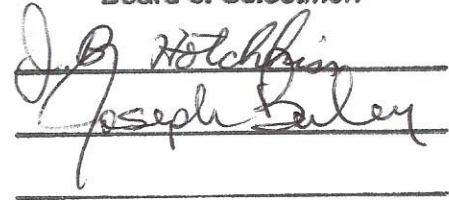


Town of Middleton
Board of Selectmen Meeting
October 24, 2016

Approved By
Board of Selectmen


J. Bailey
J. Hotchkiss

Called to order at 6:30 P.M

BOS Members Present: J. Bailey, J. Hotchkiss, M. Schwarz

Pledge Recited

Signature Action:

- J. Bailey motions to approve the minutes from the 10/3 BOS public meeting. M. Schwarz seconds, all in favor.
- M. Schwarz motions to accept the minutes from the 10/3 non-public meeting as written. J. Bailey seconds all in favor.
- J. Bailey motions to accept the minutes from the 10/6 BOS meeting. M. Schwarz seconds all in favor.
- J. Bailey motions to approve the minutes from the 10/11 BOS non-public meeting. M. Schwarz seconds all in favor.
- Deputy Clerk computer. Laptop is functioning slowly and keeps crashing when both the clerk and deputy are working within the same program. L. Parker presents a quote to buy a desktop out of the new equipment line. Quote is for \$800 completely set up. M. Schwarz motions to approve the purchase of the deputy desktop. J. Bailey seconds, all in favor.
- Fairpoint hearing schedule- Appeal with Fairpoint. There has been an agreement reached. Avitar agreed with the agreement. The agreement will be a tax credit for Fairpoint in the amount of \$18,772 with no interest. The Town now has to amend the pole license agreement to tax poles for public right-of-way. This amount can be refunded over a couple of years or paid all at once. The BOS needs to hold a public hearing to change the pole license to amend past and future licenses. Avitar needs the BOS signatures to accept the agreement. J. Bailey motions to sign the agreement for the tax credit for Fairpoint in the amount of \$18,772. M. Schwarz seconds all in favor. BOS will set the public hearing at a later date.
- Tax Rate Setting- Preliminary tax rate has been set to \$36.16. Village District Preliminary rate is \$36.96. Town went up \$0.85, County went down \$0.10, local education went up \$7.00, and state education went down \$0.24. Discussion on the fund balance and if any should be used to reduce the rate. J. Bailey does not feel that the town should use any. There was another town that lost its entire highway garage with all the equipment. What if that ever happened here? We would need to replace equipment in that case to function. 71% of the town voted for the school so this increase is expected. M. Schwarz motions to increase the overlay to cover the Fairpoint Tax Credit and not to use any of the fund balance to reduce taxes. J. Bailey seconds, all in favor.
- J. Hotchkiss spoke about the current Police Chief retiring. Board went through Primex and utilized them for guidance the process including all the interview questions etc. Position was posted internally. There were 4 applications received. Interviews were conducted. Two finalists were chosen and were brought back for a second interview. Bill Blodgett was selected as the new Police Chief effective 11-1-16. November 7th he will be sworn in at a ceremony at 6:00 PM. R. Sobel will stay on as a patrolman for 32 hours a week to help with the transition. November 17th is R. Sobel's retirement party. Tickets are available in the BOS office for \$35.00 per person.

Old Business

- Map 5 Lot 51 off Fox Road- 2 bids received. First one from the Cooks in the amount of \$2600.00. Second bid from Bourdeau in the amount of \$1500.00. J. Bailey motions to accept the bid from the Cooks. Property must be merged with the property located at 36 Fox Road which is not in the Village District. After merge new lot will not be classified as Village District as it will be merged with one not within the district. M. Schwarz seconds, all in favor. Map 4 Lot 52 & 53 on Spruce Road. One bid received from Gunnison in the amount of \$5800.00 for both lots combined. M. Schwarz motions to accept bid as long as they are merged. J. Bailey seconds, all in favor. Map 20 Lot 4 on Hornbrook Road- One bid received from Keegan in the amount of \$1350.00. M. Schwarz motions to accept the bid. J. Bailey seconds, all in favor.
- Excessive Police calls ordinance- J. Hotchkiss updates with past discussion on police being called to the same residence a lot. Other towns have adopted an ordinance where landlords or homeowners have started being charged for excessive calls. J. Hotchkiss looking for any input from public or other BOS members. It is currently an ordinance in Franklin. L. Parker will send to town council to review.

New Business

- Moose Mountain Regional Greenways- Steve Whitman is the planner. They have helped conserve over 4,700 acres. Their current project is looking for trail connections to better understand recreational needs. They would like to have all 7 towns come together and have a draft by June. They wanted to know if Middleton had any current conservation projects. Pastor Tom said that Conservation was currently looking at Tanglewood. Piper Mountain Rd has about 115 acres, slowly looking at management of those acres. Sunrise Lake is rated as high quality habitat. Developments in the area over the last 10 years discussed. Master plan is currently being updated. Moose Mountain Regional Greenways is looking to include the town plan in their plan. Dec 3rd MMRG will be holding the 4th annual cc mixer in Wakefield at the Opera House 8:30-noon.
- Sally Humor from End 68 Hours of Hunger came in front of the board to discuss her non-profit program that's a charity that Governor Wentworth Regional handles. They provide a bag of food that child take home to assure a meal over the weekend. They provided 102 meals last year, so far 77 this year and 2 are from Middleton. They hold fundraisers to raise money to purchase the food. There are 37 branches of this program. So far it has been a very effective program in making sure children get nutritional meals. Each town that has children in the GWRSD provides some monetary donation to the program. S. Humor is looking for Middleton to do this as well. The program is also looking for a central location in Middleton to continue the program during summertime. Pastor Tom volunteers the church for the location. J. Hotchkiss questions the amount being requested. S. Humor stated that usually the amount is 30-40% is expected. They do not receive anything from food banks and are located in Huggins Hospital. S. Humor may be able to provide a figure by spring.
- Stop sign concerns- The end of Dudley road crosses over to Beech, there is no stop sign. There is no stop at the end of Jordan either, so this is an intersection where no one needs to stop. Suggestion of possible stop sign or yield sign at the top of Dudley and at the intersection coming from Beech. M. Schwarz motions yield signs at Dudley Drive and at the end of Beech Tree. J. Hotchkiss seconds, all in favor.
- Elections are November 8th. 2 BOS members need to be present at all times. Poles will be open from 7:00-7:00. R. Mains and T. Gardner volunteered to help.

Public Participation

- R. Mains spoke about the signs that are posted for the school. He would like to see the "while students are present" to be removed. He thought the BOS agreed to 20 MPH all the time.

- J. Fournier asked about the perambulation in New Durham. New Durham wants to hire a survey. We do not want to spend the money on a survey. J. Bailey has volunteered to walk the line.

J. Bailey motions adjourn at 8:25 PM. M. Schwarz seconds, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by:

Laura Parker, BOS Secretary